

1 30. (New) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the tubular members comprise
2 structural supports.

A1
Cont.
1 31. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the tubular members comprise
2 wellbore casings.

1 32. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the tubular members comprise
2 pipes.

1 33. (New) The method of claim 8, wherein the tubular members comprise
2 structural supports.

3 34. (New) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the tubular members comprise
4 wellbore casings.

1 35. (New) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the tubular members comprise
2 pipes.

1 36. (New) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the tubular members comprise
2 structural supports.

1 37. (New) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:
2 a pair of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to one
3 another; and
4 a quantity of a sealant within the threaded portions of the tubular
5 members;

AI
Cont.

6 wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,
7 thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds,
8 and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;
9 wherein the sealant includes an initial cure cycle and a final cure cycle;
10 wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent
11 without failure;
12 wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic
13 materials;
14 wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable
15 for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F; and
16 wherein the threaded portions of the tubular members include a primer
17 for improving the adhesion of the sealant to the threaded
18 portions.

1 38. A method of coupling an expandable tubular assembly including a
2 plurality of tubular members having threaded portions to a preexisting
3 structure, comprising:
4 applying a primer to the threaded portions of the tubular members prior
5 to coating the threaded portions of the tubular members with a
6 sealant;
7 coupling the threaded portions of the tubular members;
8 initially curing the sealant;
9 positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;
10 radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the
11 preexisting structure; and
12 finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;

A1
Cont.

13 wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,
14 thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds,
15 and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;
16 wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;
17 wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after
18 curing without failure;
19 wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic
20 materials; and
21 wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable
22 for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

1 39. A method of coupling an expandable tubular assembly including a
2 plurality of tubular members having threaded portions to a preexisting
3 structure, comprising:
4 applying a primer to the threaded portions of a first group of the tubular
5 members;
6 applying a sealant to the threaded portions of a second group of the
7 tubular members;
8 coupling the threaded portions of the first and second groups of tubular
9 members;
10 initially curing the sealant;
11 positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;
12 radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the
13 preexisting structure; and
14 finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;

A1
Cont.

15 wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,
16 thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds,
17 and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;
18 wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;
19 wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after
20 curing without failure;
21 wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic
22 materials; and A
23 wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable
24 for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

1 40. An apparatus, comprising:
2 a preexisting structure; and
3 a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to the
4 preexisting structure by the process of:
5 applying a primer to the threaded portions of the tubular
6 members prior to coating the threaded portions of the
7 tubular members with a sealant;
8 coupling the threaded portions of the tubular members;
9 initially curing the sealant;
10 positioning the tubular members within the preexisting
11 structure;
12 radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the
13 preexisting structure; and
14 finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular
15 members;

16 wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of
17 epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing
18 compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable
19 materials;
20 wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;
21 wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent
22 after curing without failure;
23 wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic
24 materials; and
25 wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially
26 stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

41. An apparatus, comprising:
a preexisting structure; and
a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to the
preexisting structure by the process of:
applying a primer to the threaded portions of a first group of the
tubular members;
applying a sealant to the threaded portions of a second group of
the tubular members;
coupling the threaded portions of the first and second groups of
tubular members;
initially curing the sealant;
positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;
radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the
preexisting structure; and

S/N 09/559,122

15 finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular
16 members;
17 wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of
18 epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing
19 compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable
20 materials;
21 wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;
22 wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent
23 after curing without failure;
24 wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic
25 materials; and
26 wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially
27 stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

A1
Cont.

S/N 09/559,122

Applicant authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No.08-1394 of Haynes and Boone, L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 2/12/2001

HAYNES AND BOONE, L.L.P.
1000 Louisiana Street, Suite 4300
Houston, Texas 77002-5012
Telephone: 713-547-2301
Facsimile: 713-547-2300
Docket No. 25791.7.02

Todd Mattingly

Todd Mattingly
Registration No. 40,298

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box NON-FEE AMENDMENT, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 13, 2001

Michelle Baxter